Supply of Hepatitis B Vaccine to Government Hospitals

2694. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the policy of Government regarding supply of Hepatitis B injections to Government hospitals;

(b) whether there is any special fund for this; and

(c) if so, the details of fund allocation, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Government of India is implementing a pilot project of Hepatitis-B in 15 cities (2002-2003) and 33 Districts (2003-2004). Under the project, Hepatitis B vaccination is provided free of cost to infants (0-1 year only) alongwith DPT Hepatitis-B vaccinations is provided at all Immunization sites in the project area. These are Government hospitals, Dispensaries, Primary Health Centres, Sub-Centres etc. Hepatitis B injection, auto-disposable syringes and safety boxes are being supplied by Global Alliance for Vaccines & Immunization (GAVI) and are being distributed by Medical Store Departments of Ministry of Health.

Change of Sex

2695. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Indian Medical science has been successful in sex change;

(b) if so, the number of persons who have changed their sex so far; and

(c) how far the female population in the country will be protected from the shortfall?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no national registry for collection of such data as on today.

(c) There is no programme/ scheme presently functioning for controlling sex change in the adult population. However to prevent sex selection in

the prenatal stage against the girl child which would lead to shortfall in number of females in the population, the Government has enacted the Prenatal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994.

Rural Electrification in Jharkhand

†2696. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Jharkhand had assigned the work of rural electrification to Rail India Technical and Engineering Service Ltd. (RITES);

(b) whether RITES after getting the above assignment had allotted this work to some other private company to carry out the same;

(c) whether the Government of Jharkhand has recently cancelled that contract;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the status of that contract at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) RITES Ltd., based on a pre-bid memorandum of understanding, awarded the work of supply and erection to M/s Ramjee Power Construction Limited, Ranchi, while retaining the project management with itself.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Jharkhand State Electricity Board has reduced the volume of the work from original 4923 number of villages to 1848 number of villages due to availability of cheaper funds now under Rajeev Gandhi Village Electrification Programme of Central Government. RITES has completed electrification of about 500 villages so far, upon detection of a forgery committed by M/s Ramjee Power Construction Limited (RPCL), in submission of bank guarantees, RITES have terminated the contract with

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.